

<b>ALASKA PIONEER HOME</b>		<b>P&amp;P No: 01.01</b>
<b>Title: Alaska Pioneer Home Overview</b>		<b>Approval:</b> D. COTE
<b>Key Words: Division, Home, Resident, Level of Care, Eden</b>		
<b>Team: All employees</b>	<b>Effective Date: 8/1/12</b>	<b>Page: 1 of 5</b>

## PURPOSE

To provide an overview of the Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes (AKPH) and the residents that they serve.

## POLICY

The six Pioneer Homes are unified in one division which is supervised by a director.

The Pioneer Homes follow one set of policies and procedures, and care of the residents is consistent in the six Homes.

The Pioneer Homes provide licensed assisted living care for Alaska resident elders sixty-five years old and older.

The Pioneer Homes assist Alaskan elders to have the highest quality of life by providing assisted living in a safe home setting.

The Pioneer Homes promote independence, positive relationships, meaningful activities, resident centered care, and physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

The Pioneer Homes are registered as Eden Alternative Homes.

## DEFINITIONS

**Policy** is a rule to guide decisions to reach desired outcomes, and **procedure** is the action taken. Policy and procedure are interpretations of statutes and regulations, and are not legal documents.

**Assisted living** provides supervision or assistance with activities of daily living, coordination of outside health care services, and monitoring resident to ensure their health, safety, and well being. Assisted living emerged in the 1990s as an alternative to the 24 hour medical care in a nursing home.

**Eden Alternative** philosophy for elder care promotes quality of life in human habitats rather than in institutional nursing homes. Eden was introduced in the early 1990s and is practiced worldwide.

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**Statute** is a state law made by the legislative body. **Regulation** is a rule made by a government agency in the state.

**Home Administrator** manages the organization of people and resources to direct activities toward common goals and objectives of the Home.

**Resident centered care** promotes decisions and choices by the resident for care and services in the Home.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **I. State of Alaska government is composed of 21 departments.**

A. Department of Health and Social Services is composed of 15 divisions.

1. Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes includes 6 Homes, a pharmacy in the Anchorage Home, and a Central Office in Juneau, the State capital.
2. The Homes are licensed assisted living homes owned and operated by the State of Alaska.
3. The Homes operate in accordance with the statutes and regulations pertaining to assisted living home licensure.
4. The individual Homes are managed on site by licensed administrators.
5. The following Pioneer Homes are mostly named according to the city in which they are located.
  - a. The Anchorage Pioneer Home (APH), resident capacity 168.
    - 1) The APH is a five story building occupying one third of a city block.
    - 2) The APH overlooks the Park Strip, a greenbelt in the center of metropolitan Anchorage, which divides the business district from the oldest residential area of the city.
  - b. The Fairbanks Pioneer Home (FPH), resident capacity 93.
    - 1) The FPH is located on 16 treed acres, and next to the local senior center.
    - 2) The FPH campus has flower, herb, and vegetable gardens which are maintained by the residents and staff.
  - c. The Juneau Pioneer Home (JPH), resident capacity 45.
    - 1) The JPH is located in the wetlands along Juneau's Egan Drive, and has views of mountains and the channel that divides the mainland from Douglas Island.
    - 2) The JPH residents can view wildlife such as black bears, eagles, ravens, deer, and squirrels.



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- d. The Ketchikan Pioneer Home (KPH), resident capacity 47.
  - 1) The KPH is a three story building that is on the local bus line, close to both the Alaska Marine Highway and the Airport Ferry terminals.
  - 2) The KPH's central location is a hub for family and friends to meet and visit.
- e. The Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home (AVPH) in Palmer, resident capacity 79.
  - 1) The AVPH is located in the center of downtown Palmer, and surrounded by the Chugach and Talkeetna Mountains Ranges and the Knik Glacier.
  - 2) Residents can view wildlife from their windows, and be part of the Palmer community.
  - 3) The Alaska legislature approved development of the State's first veterans' home in 2004.
  - 4) The Palmer Home was remodeled and upgraded to meet US Department of Veteran Affairs requirements.
  - 5) 75% of the beds in the AVPH are designated for veterans, and 25% are available for non-veterans.
- f. The Sitka Pioneer Home (SPH), resident capacity 75.
  - 1) The SPH is a three story historic building that is the hub of downtown Sitka, and faces The Channel.
  - 2) The residents sit on the veranda which faces wide expansive lawns and gardens, and watch tourists and community activity.

## **II. Residents in the Homes**

### **A. Demographic profile**

- 1. The six Pioneer Homes have rooms for 508 residents.
- 2. Thousands of Alaska elders are named on the waiting list to enter the Homes.
- 3. The average age of the AKPH residents is 85 years.
- 4. AKPH residents include pioneers from the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including homesteaders, miners, and bush pilots.
- 5. AKPH residents typically need some form of daily nursing assistance.

### **B. Level of care**

- 1. AKPH provides three different levels of care for the residents:
  - a) Level I is independent with occasional emergency assistance.
  - b) Level II needs assistance with basic living skills at some time during the day.

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- c) Level III requires high levels of professional care available 24 hours a day for comprehensive services.
  - 2. Many residents qualify for the Older Alaskan Home and Community Based Medicaid waiver due to their level of care.
- C. Resident services
  - 1. Professional services range from assurance of a safe environment and occasional help with daily life activities, to assistance with health care, personal care, and end of life care.
  - 2. AKPH provides the following services, depending on the health status and needs of the resident:
    - a) Private or semi-private room
    - b) Opportunity for recreation and spiritual devotion
    - c) Meals, laundry, and housekeeping
    - d) Dietary assessment
    - e) Emergency assistance
    - f) Physical activities
    - g) Assistance with activities of daily living
    - h) Nursing assessment and health services
    - i) Care for residents with dementia and Alzheimer's Disease
    - j) Payment assistance for those residents who qualify
    - k) Pharmacy services
  - 3. Services in the Homes which support residents:
    - a) Nursing
    - b) Food service
    - c) Pharmacy
    - d) Social services
    - e) Risk management
    - f) Medical records
    - g) Activities
    - h) Supply
    - i) Environmental services
    - j) Maintenance
- D. Home environment
  - 1. AKPH staff assists the residents and their families as they transition into the Pioneer Home community.
  - 2. All AKPH residents are provided a safe Home environment, room and board, and opportunities for social interaction and recreation.
  - 3. The Homes have neighborhoods which are set up like small communities.
    - a) Familiar rooms and faces contribute to resident safety and peace of mind.

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- b) Each neighborhood is supported by a team of residents, caregivers, support staff, family members, friends, and volunteers.
- 4. Nursing care is provided by Certified Nurse Aides (CNAs) and licensed nurses 24/7.
- E. Resident centered care
  - 1. The AKPH staff follows the resident centered care philosophy by honoring residents' life experiences, choices, routines, and the spontaneity of daily life.
  - 2. Aging is a continual stage of development and growth rather than a period of decline.
  - 3. Care is given with affection, compassion, and dignity every day.
  - 4. The resident centered care approach nurtures the body, mind, and spirit while preserving dignity and individuality.
  - 5. The human habitat is enhanced with children, pets, and plants.
  - 6. AKPH maintains a focus on elders' abilities and potential for personal growth.

## **HISTORY OF REVISIONS**

New: 1/1/12  
 Revised: 7/20/12  
 Reviewed:

## **ATTACHMENTS**

## **REFERENCES**



<b>ALASKA PIONEER HOME</b>		<b>P&amp;P No: 01.02</b>
<b>Title: Mission, Vision, Values</b>		<b>Approval:</b> D. COTE
<b>Key Words: Mission, Vision, Core Values</b>		
<b>Team: All employees</b>	<b>Effective Date: 8/1/12</b>	<b>Page: 1 of 3</b>

## **PURPOSE**

To state the mission, vision, and core values of the Alaska Pioneer Homes (AKPH).

## **POLICY**

The mission of AKPH is to assist older Alaskan to have the highest quality of life by providing assisted living in a safe, home setting which promotes positive relationships, meaningful activities, and physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

The vision of the AKPH system is a team of caring professionals who are committed to creating Homes that enrich the lives of the residents and staff. The AKPH reaches out to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) community in Alaska.

The values of the AKPH include a positive attitude, love, accountability, trust, and excellence.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Mission** is a service or activity that is assigned to a group.

**Pioneer Home Mission** is to assist older Alaskan to have the highest quality of life by providing assisted living in a safe home setting which promotes positive relationships, meaningful activities, and physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

**Vision** is looking forward, being inspired to imagine, and recognizing and identifying possibilities.

**Pioneer Home Vision** is a team of caring professionals who are committed to creating Homes that enrich the lives of the residents and staff. The AKPH reaches out to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) community in Alaska.

**Values** are desirable qualities. A **core value** of the AKPH is a quality which is central to the Homes.

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<b>PROCEDURE</b>
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## **I. Mission of AKPH**

- A. While preserving dignity and individuality, the Pioneer Homes are committed to providing a safe and compassionate environment to residents, with a focus on people's abilities and potential for personal growth.
- B. The mission has evolved to best serve the needs of the growing senior population since the Homes began.
- C. Many seniors who require assistance choose home and community-based services, and those who enter the Pioneer Homes do so later in their lives.
- D. The average age of residents in the Homes has increased, and the needs of the residents have changed.
  - 1. Some residents have few needs for assistance, while others need extensive care.
- E. Care of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD)
  - 1. Many applicants and residents seek ADRD care.
  - 2. ADRD usually strikes older individuals.
  - 3. The number of seniors entering the Homes with ADRD is increasing.
  - 4. The physical and behavioral problems of seniors with ADRD often make it impossible for family members to provide necessary care on a 24-hour basis.

## **II. Vision of AKPH**

- A. The AKPH system is evolving to best care for the existing population of residents and to plan for future needs.
  - 1. This evolution is guided by the use of best practices, current information, and expertise in the field of geriatric care.
- B. A Home cannot guarantee that all levels of care will be available to every resident.
  - 1. AKPH makes reasonable efforts to provide the proper level of care to residents who require a change in the level after being admitted.
  - 2. Availability of levels of care is subject to the funding, facilities, and staff that are available at each of the Homes.

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- C. A monthly rate is charged for each level of care.
  - 1. The rate is determined by regulation and is subject to change.
  - 2. There are additional fees for supplies and medications that are received from the AKPH pharmacy.
  - 3. The current statute states that no one can be evicted from a Pioneer Home if they are unable to pay the monthly rate.
- D. Outside agencies provide services to supplement the services a resident receives in a Pioneer Home.
  - 1. This allows residents to remain in the Home if they need extended services.
  - 2. The resident is financially responsible for any outside agency services.

### **III. Values of AKPH**

- A. Core values of AKPH
  - 1. *Positive attitude* and optimism inspires open minds and creativity.
  - 2. *Love* and respect for the residents places their needs before the staff's convenience.
  - 3. *Accountability* to the residents, their families, and co-workers, and accepting responsibility is essential when giving care.
  - 4. *Trust* from the residents, families, and co-workers are gained with open, honest communication.
  - 5. Personal *excellence* inspires excellence in others, including residents, families, and co-workers.

### **HISTORY OF REVISIONS**

New: 1/1/12  
 Revised: 7/20/12  
 Reviewed:

### **ATTACHMENTS**

### **REFERENCES**

AS 47.33.005